

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05786 041220Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 041015Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8804

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AF

SUBJ: PERSONNEL CHANGES IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA)

1. RADIO AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCED EVENING AUGUST 3
FOLLOWING CHANGES IN MFA PERSONNEL:

-- MIR SHAMSUDDIN MOVES FROM THIRD POLITICAL
SECTION (EUROPE AND AMERICAS), WHERE HE WAS
DIRECTOR, TO BECOME DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL,
PROTOCOL POST HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY VACANT OVER TWO YEARS.
MRS. MAHBOOB RAFIQ UNTIL SEVERAL MONTHS AGO
ACTED AS DIRECTOR.

-- ABDULL QAYUM MASOUR TAKES OVER THIRD POLITICAL
SECTION. MANSOUR WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE
MFA ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT UNTIL FALL
OF 1975. HE HAS BEEN STUDYING IN THE UNITED
STATES FOR THE PAST YEAR.

-- ABDUL ALI SULAIMAN SHIFTS FROM BEING
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PORTOCOL TO BECOME
DIRECTOR OF TREATIES AND LAWS DEPARTMENT.

-- MOHAMMAD GUL JAHANGIRI BECOMES DIRECTOR OF
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PAGE 02 KABUL 05786 041220Z

THE FIRST POLITICAL SECTION (PAKISTAN, INDIA,

EAST, AND SOUTHEAST ASIA). JAHANGIRI HAS BEEN DEPUTY DIRECTOR WITH THE DIRECTORSHIP VACANT FOR SOME TIME.

-- ABDUL SHAKUR OSMAN BECOMES DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ADMINISTRATION, LEAVING HIS POST AS DIRECTOR OF VISAS DEPARTMENT.

- MOHAMMAD YASIN MOHSINI WAS PROMOTED TO BECOME DIRECTOR OF VISA DEPARTMENT.

-- AMANULLAH HAZRAT WAS PROMOTED TO BE DIRECTOR OF CONSULATES.

2. COMMENT. THESE APPEAR TO BE ROUTINE MFA TRANSFERS WITH MORE PERHAPS TO FOLLOW, INCLUDING IN THE AMBASSADORIAL RANSK. WE SEE, ON THE BALANCE, A SLIGHTLY STRONGER TEAM IN THE MFA DUE TO THESE SHIFTS. SHAMSUDDIN, LESS THAN EFFECTIVE IN HIS JOD JOB POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF HIS WEAKNESS IN ENGLISH, WILL PERHAPS BE BETTER SUITED FOR PROTOCOL. MANSOUR, WHO REPLACES HIM, IMPRESSED EMBOFFS WHEN HE WORKED IN THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS SECTION. HE SERVED IN THE AFGHAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON 1964-67. IN TREATIES AND LAW, A SECTION WITH WHICH WE HAVE ONLY OCCASIONAL CONTACT, SULAIMAN SHOULD BE AT LEAST AS EFFICIENT AS HIS PREDECESSOR, ABDUL AHAD MAHMOOD. (MAHMOOD IS A SENIOR AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL WHOM WE EXPECT WILL RECEIVE AN ONWARD ASSIGNMENT.) JAHANGIRI IS A BRIGHT, ARTICULATE PUSHTUN FROM THE NANGARHAR AREA WHO SEEMS TO HAVE WAITED OVERLONG FOR CONFIRMATION IN THE JOB HE HAS BEEN HANDLING.

3. CHANGES WILL NOT AFFECT SECRETARY'S VISIT.
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